

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A washer, comprising:

a washing tub;

a metal ion adding portion adding antimicrobial metal ions to water in the washing tub;

a treatment substance adding portion adding a treatment substance for washing to the

water in the washing tub; and

a water flow controlling portion controlling flow of water in the washing tub; and

washing tub;

a control unit that controls the metal ion adding portion, the treatment substance adding portion, and the water flow controlling portion, such that

wherein at least one of the metal ions and the treatment substance is added ~~can be added~~ to the water in the washing tub and attached to a surface of laundry in a predetermined process in a laundry washing session,

wherein the control unit controls the water flow controlling portion, such that

the predetermined process includes,

first and second powerful swirl periods and a mild swirl period, or

first and second powerful swirl periods and a still period,

~~wherein~~ the mild swirl period or still period comes after the first powerful swirl period and the second powerful swirl period comes after the mild swirl period or still period, the second powerful swirl period being shorter than the first powerful swirl period, and

~~wherein~~ a time of the predetermined process is longer when metal ions are added than when no metal ions are added but the treatment substance is added.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The washer according to claim 1,
wherein a ratio of the first powerful swirl period and the mild swirl period or a ratio of
the first powerful swirl period and the still period is constant, regardless of a volume of water in
the washing tub and/or an amount of laundry.

5. (Previously Presented) The washer according to claim 1,
wherein a ratio of the first powerful swirl period and the mild swirl period or a ratio of
the first powerful swirl period and the still period varies in accordance with a volume of water in
the washing tub and/or an amount of laundry.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) The washer according to claim 1,
wherein the predetermined process is a final rinsing process.

8. (Currently Amended) A washer, comprising:
a washing tub;

a metal ion adding portion adding antimicrobial metal ions to water in the washing tub;

an unbalance detecting portion detecting unbalance in the washing tub; ~~and~~

an unbalance correcting portion correcting the unbalance in the washing tub, and

a control unit that controls the metal ion adding portion and the unbalance correcting portion,

wherein the control unit controls the metal ion adding portion to add the antimicrobial metal ions ~~can be added~~ to the water in the washing tub in a predetermined process in a laundry washing session, and

~~a predetermined process in a laundry washing session, and~~

wherein the control unit controls

~~the metal ion adding portion such that~~ the metal ions are added to the water in the washing tub in final rinsing before a squeezing process, and if the unbalance detecting portion detects unbalance in the washing tub during squeezing rotation of the washing tub performed thereafter, the control unit controls

~~the unbalance correcting portion to execute~~ ~~executes~~ rinsing for correcting uneven spreading of laundry in which, while water having the metal ions added thereto is supplied, agitation is performed.

9. (Canceled).

10. (Previously Presented) The washer according to claim 8,

wherein when the rinsing for correcting uneven spreading of laundry is executed while the water having the metal ions added thereto is supplied, an amount of metal ions added is less than that added in previous processes.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) The washer according to claim 1,

wherein the metal ion adding portion is an ion elution unit that elutes metal ions by applying a voltage between electrodes.

17. (Currently Amended) A washer, comprising:

a washing tub;

a metal ion adding portion adding antimicrobial metal ions to water in the washing tub;

an unbalance detecting portion detecting unbalance in the washing tub;

an unbalance correcting portion correcting the unbalance in the washing tub; and

an informing portion giving an indication and/or notification; and ~~notification~~;

a control unit that controls the metal ion adding portion, the unbalance correcting portion,
and the informing portion, such that

the control unit controls the metal ion adding portion to add ~~wherein~~ the metal ions can
~~be added to the water in the washing tub in a predetermined process in a laundry washing~~
session, and

wherein the control unit

controls the metal ion adding portion, such that the metal ions are added to the
water in the washing tub in final rinsing before a squeezing process, and

if the unbalance detecting portion detects unbalance in the washing tub during squeezing
rotation of the washing tub performed thereafter, controls

the unbalance correcting portion to execute ~~executes~~ rinsing for correcting uneven
spreading of laundry in which, while water having no metal ions added thereto is supplied,
agitation is performed, and

in addition controls the information portion to give ~~the informing portion gives an~~
indication and/or notification that water having no metal ions added thereto is being supplied.